FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 1/28/69

MR. DON WOOD, Aeromarine Supply Company, Airport Road, Birmingham, Alabama, was contacted in connection with another matter, and during this contact, related the following information:

Mr. WOOD advised that on Saturday, December 21, 1968, at approximately 5:30 p.m., he was visited in his store by WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, noted author from Hartselle, Alabama. Mr. HUIE requested conversation with Mr. WOOD concerning certain facts surrounding the purchase of a rifle by JAMES EARL RAY, the alleged assassin of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

Mr. WOOD stated that he told HUIE initially that he intended testifying in this matter during the trial of JAMES EARL RAY in Memphis, Tennessee, and did not wish to discuss any of this information with HUIE. Mr. HUIE stated then that he desired to purchase a rifle similar to the one purchased from WOOD by JAMES EARL RAY, and stated more specifically, that it was a Model 760 Remington 30.06 caliber. Mr. HUIE likewise requested that WOOD mount a telescopic sight similar to the one purchased by RAY, on this rifle. Mr. WOOD advised that he sold Mr. HUIE this rifle and while mounting the scope on this rifle, Mr. HUIE questioned him at length concerning the technical aspects of bore-sighting this scope, which questions Mr. WOOD answered.

Following the transaction involving this rifle, Mr. HUIE asked Mr. WOOD for a Browning Rifle box similar to the one furnished JAMES EARL RAY at the time he purchased the rifle. Mr. WOOD stated he told Mr. HUIE that he did not have such a box but did furnish him with a Browning shotgun box which was much shorter in length than the box Mr. WOOD furnished to JAMES EARL RAY. Mr. WOOD stated that the rifle Mr. HUIE purchased would not fit in the Browning box he gave Mr. HUIE.

Mr. WOOD advised that HUIE told him he intended taking this rifle to Memphis, Tennessee, where he would re-enact the alleged shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING from the rooming house of the Lorain Motel.

On 1/20/69 at Birmingham, Alabama File# BH 44-1740 -2121

by SA NEIL P. SHANAHAN:rte Date dictated 1/28/69

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